

Please amend the application as follows.

In the Specification

Please correct the typographical error at page 25 at the end of the line numbered 10 and the beginning of the line numbered 11 by deleting "two lasers" and placing instead -- the laser --.

At page 25 at the line numbered 24, before the word "It" please insert --/In summary, by the method of the invention, laser induced breakdown of a material causes thermal-physical changes through ionization, free electron multiplication, dielectric breakdown, plasma formation, other thermal-physical changes in state, such as melting and vaporization, leading to an irreversible change in the material.--

In the Claims

In the fifth line of claim 1, and in the fourth line of subpart (a) of claim 1, at each occurrence, please delete the word "predetermined" and place in its stead -- characteristic --.

Please amend claims 2, 5, and 7 and correct the grammatical/syntactical errors therein as follows.

In the second line of claim 2 before the word "metal" please insert -- a --.

Please amend claim 5 as follows: